



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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January 3, 1991

Mr. Vern Gomez
District Manager
Mine Safety and Health Administration
P. O. Box 25367
Denver, Colorado 80225-0367

Dear Mr. Gomez:

Re: Information Release Request, Utah Calcium Corp./Thomas American Stone, Aragonite Mine, M/045/031, Tooele County, Utah

On December 27, 1990, an inspection was made of the Aragonite mine site, by staff members of this Division and the Bureau of Land Management. The mine site (quarry) is located in the NE 1/4, Section 23, T1S, R10W, SLBM. The mine is not currently permitted with the State Division of Oil, Gas & Mining and is in violation of Section 40-8-13 of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act.

We have been informed that MSHA has cited the operator of this mine, Mr. Lon Thomas, on several different occasions for safety violations, the most recent being an order to cease mining the southern most end of the main pit. We may be forced to take possible legal action against the operator for willful violation of our Act and regulations. Consequently, we would like to obtain copies of all formal documentation/information which may support or demonstrate that the operator has established a pattern of noncompliance in the State. The Division respectfully requests that MSHA make copies of the pertinent compliance records available to us in this regard.

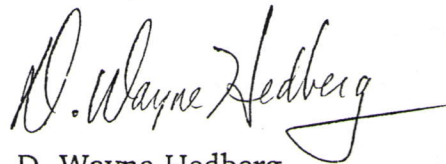
During our December 27, 1990 inspection, it was obvious that the southern most end of the pit had been mined that same morning. If MSHA would like further documentation of this inspection, we can provide you with copies of our inspection report and photos. We are quite concerned with the dangerous conditions currently evident at the mine site with regard to the general public's health and safety.

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The Division also requests information regarding other MSHA permits issued to Mr. Lon Thomas, et. al., under Utah Calcium Corporation, American Stone, Thomas American Stone, etc., for other active or inactive mining properties in Utah. We would like to compare your list with ours for continuity in permitted operations. A legal description of the mine site locations would be most helpful.

In reply, please reference our assigned file number M/045/031. I thank you for very much for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Wayne Hedberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb
cc: Dianne R. Nielson, DOGM
Lowell Braxton, DOGM
Deanne Zeller, BLM, Pony Express RA
M045031.2